

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 SSM-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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R 211751Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8269
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS CAIRO 11372

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR EG XF
SUBJECT: PRESS TREATMENT OF PEACE PROCESS: ISRAEL AND
- REJECTIONISTS ON DEFENSIVE

SUMMARY. AGAINST BACKDROP OF ATHERTON RETURN TO RESUME
PEACE EFFORTS, TWO PRINCIPAL EDITORIALS APRIL 21 PORTRAY
ISRAEL AND REJECTIONISTS ON DEFENSIVE DUE TO "RADICAL
CHANGES" BROUGHT ABOUT BY SADAT INITIATIVE. AHRAH NOTES
ISRAEL IS BELEAGUERED, B'NAI B'RITH HAD TO ADVERTISE IN
NEW YORK TIMES TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL. AKHBAR
REPORTS FAMILIAR THEME THAT WHOLE WORLD WITH SADAT
INITIATIVE AND THAT "RETROGRADE STAND" OF REJECTIONISTS
WILL NOT CHANGE COURSE OF EGYPT WHICH ALONE BROUGHT
ABOUT RADICAL CHANGE IN WEST. END SUMMARY.

1. PXRAOL. AHRAH EDITOR ALI HAMDI AL GAMAL'S FRIDAY
EDITORIAL ("SITUATION TURNED UPSIDE DOWN") CITES B'NAI

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 11372 222331Z

B'RITH'S AD IN NEW YORK TIMES AS EVIDENCE OF CHANGE
IN AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION (WHICH NOW "PRO-"EGYPT")
SINCE THIS IS WHAT ARABS HAD TO DO IN PAST. GAMAL
ATTACKED AD'S CLAIM THAT 242 DOES NOT DEMAND THAT
ISRAELI PULLOUT, SAYING OCCUPATION OF LANDS BY FORCE
INADMISSABLE AND THAT U.S. DOES NOT AGREE WITH ISRAELIS.
GAMAL STATES "EGYPT AND ALL ARABS" DO NOT OBJECT TO

SLIGHT BORDER RECTIFICATION ON WEST BANK "IN LINE
WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE PALESTINIAN STATE AND ISRAEL."
EGYPT "DOES NOT DIFFER WITH ISRAEL" ON NEED TO INSURE
SECURITY BUT DIFFERS ON MEANS TO ACHIEVE IT: I.E. NOT
BY EXPANSION BUT END OF OCCUPATION AND RETURN OF
PALESTINIAN RIGHTS.

2. REJECTIONISTS. AKHBAR BOARD CHAIRMAN MOUSSA SABRI
AYEERHU "WHOLE WORLD IS WITH US" AND DOES NOT WANT TO
SEE PEACE OPPORTUNITY SLIP AWAY. REJECTIONISTS MUST
LIVE UP TO RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARD OTHER ARABS. IN ANY
CASE, THEIR "RETROGRADE STANDS" WILL NOT AFFECT MARCH
OF EGYPT WHICH, ALONE, HAS BROUGHT ABOUT RADICAL CHANGE"
IN WESTERN WORLD. WHETHER ARAB SUMMIT HELD OR NOT,
SADAT INITIATIVE WILL PROCEED; ATTEMPTS TO KILL IT
"HAVE COME TO NAUGHT". EILTS

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